Signature

"Since the filing of correspondence under § 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will not be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

*WARNING: Each paper or fee filed by Express Mail must have the number of the "Express Mail" mailing label

John S. Egbert

(type or print name of person certifying)

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 1 of ____

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

placed thereon prior to mailing. 37 C.F.R. § 1.10(b).

MAR 1 7 2004

Date:

- NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant:
 - (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
 - (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application; or
 - (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).
- NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all Information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).
- NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1.	X	Preliminary Statements					
2.	X	FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)					
3.		Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications					
4.		Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted					
5.		Cumulative Patents or Publications					
6.		Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement					
7.		Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items					
		7A. EPO Search Report					
		7B.					
8.		Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents					

(complete the following, if appropriate)

9. ☑ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
 10. ☑ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

Sections	, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S)
NOTE:	"Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information. Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 2 of _____

Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against Interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

(Information Disclosure Statement — Section 1. Preliminary Statements [6-1] — page _____ of _____)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

	-	-			
Sheet	1		of	1	

C	Complete if Known		
Application Number	10/715,982		
Filing Date	November 18, 2003		
First Named Inventor	YANG, Tsun-Neng		
Group Art Unit			
Examiner Name			
Attomey Docket Number	1970-3		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Cite Initials No.		U.S. Patent I Number	Oocument Kind Code ² (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		2003/0070316	6	Weed et al.	04-17-2003		
		2002/0079465	5	Halling	06-27-2002		
		6,429,442		Tomita et al.	08-06-2002		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶	
		EP	1,037,255		Young	09-20-2000			
		EΡ	1,035,560		Mack	09-13-2000			
		EP	385,707		Ray	09-05-1990			
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Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under § 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of: (1) Each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) All other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, except that no copy of a U.S. patent application need be included . . . "

NOTE: The wording in § 1.98(a)(2)(iii) makes it clear that the requirement to submit a copy of each item of information listed in an information disclosure statement does not apply to the citation of a U.S. patent application. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 14.

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)
 □ Exception(s) to above:
 □ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.
 □ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.